

AN ILLUSTRATED
PRESENTATION
OF OUR CRAFT

Rattee & Kett.

The purpose of this brochure is to offer to members of the Architectural Profession and to all who have a direct interest in building, joinery, masonry, carving and sculpture, some account of the scope and variety of the work which we undertake.

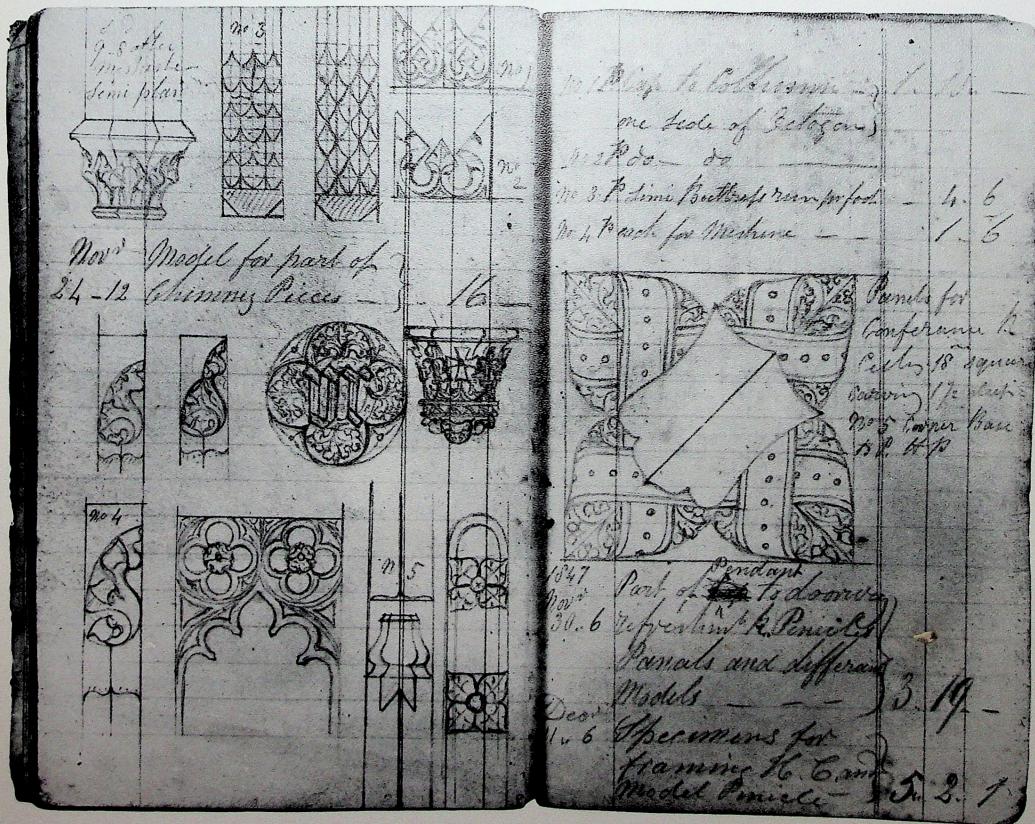
We trust that in this brochure you will find something of interest, whether you are adding to the beauty of an old building, or restoring an ancient one; or designing a completely new one to meet the needs of the future.

Whatever the task, we hope that we may be given the opportunity of placing at your disposal both the skill of our craftsmen and our long experience as builders.

RATTEE & KETT LTD.

looking back to 1843

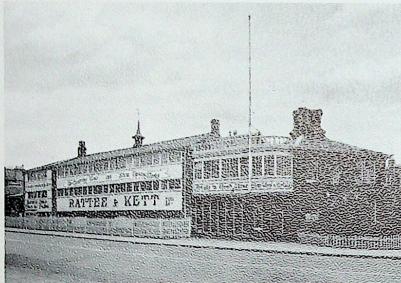
... and we find an historical document



1843 is a memorable date in the history of our Company, since it was the year in which Mr. J. Rattee founded the business in Cambridge. Five years later he took into partnership Mr. George Kett.

On delving recently into a file of old records we uncovered a small pocket notebook containing a true account of work times and costs recorded by George Kett from 1846 to 1848. It was during this period that he was personally engaged upon carving work in the Houses of Parliament and within the many pages of this notebook, two of which are reproduced here, he entered, in the neat handwriting characteristic of that era, the times and costs of many fascinating jobs of his craft, as well as minute sketches of carvings which were to grace that historic building.

Three generations of the Kett family have managed the business since those early days, and examples of our work can be seen to-day in palaces, castles, mansions, cathedrals, churches,



2

The original offices
in Station Road

universities, etc., not only at home but in the continents of Africa, America and Australasia. In 1926 we became one of the John Mowlem Group of Companies, sharing with them their research and technical resources. We have, nevertheless, retained our individuality and tradition for the older crafts.

In this present era in which modern design begins to challenge the traditional, we acknowledge the virtues of the new as well as the old, and the following pages illustrate not only our skills in restoring the beauty of the buildings of an earlier age, but also some of the more modern structures for which we have been responsible in recent years.

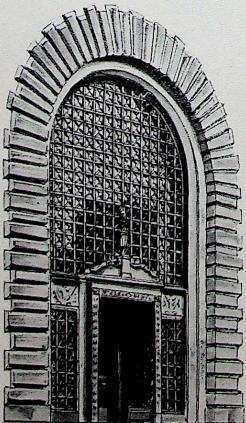


3

The present-day offices, Purbeck Road, Hills Road, Cambridge



4



6

Cambridge University Library 4

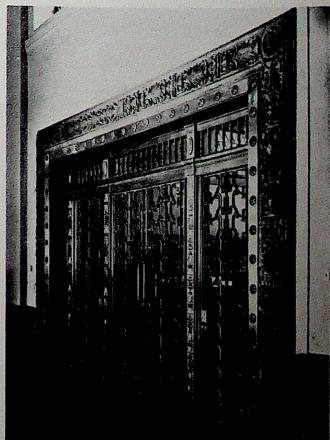
Completed in 1934 and opened by King George V.

Architect: Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, O.M., R.A., P.R.I.B.A.

Reading Room interior 5

One of the features of the ornamental entrance to
the Reading Room is the stone carving surround 7

Main Entrance doorway 6



7



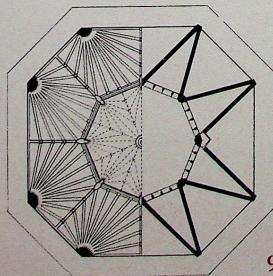
8

The Lantern of Ely Cathedral

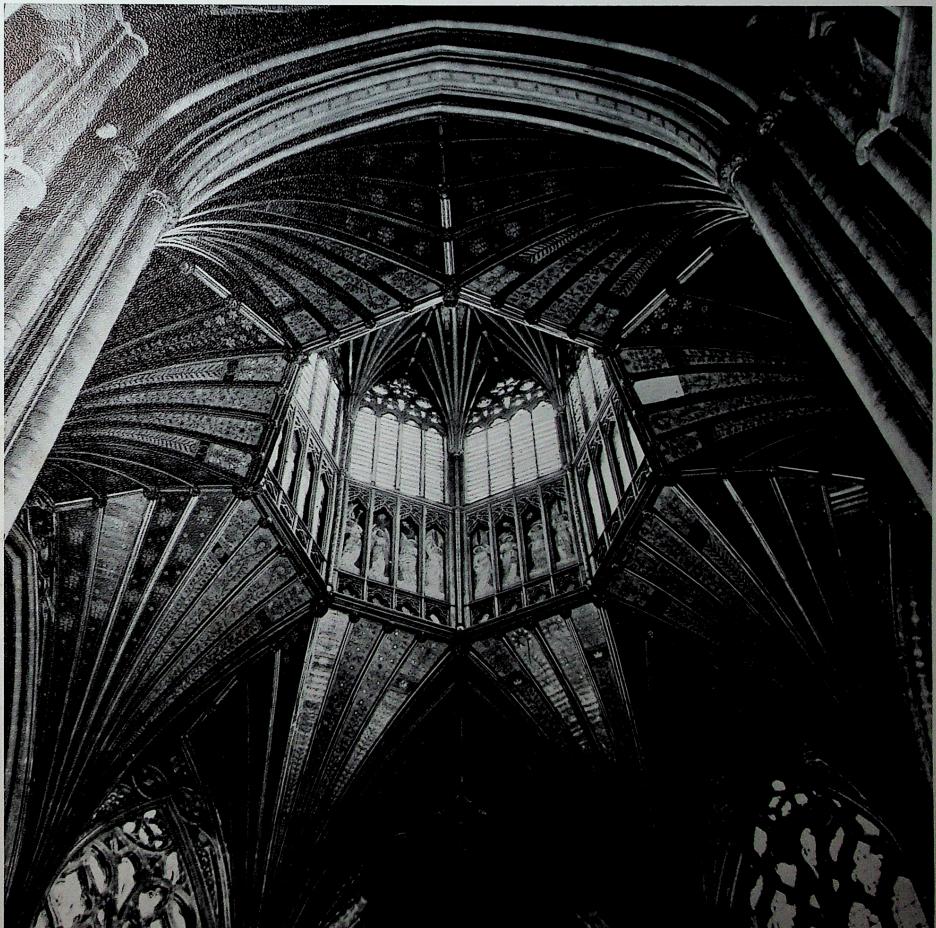
The original square Norman Tower was rebuilt (about 1322) in octagonal form, surmounted by an oak lantern.

Over the centuries it suffered the ravages of the deathwatch beetle, and the drawings, 8, 9 illustrate the action we took to restore it.

The illustration 10 shows the completed work, and the beauty of the oak vaulting.



9



10

The High Altar Canopy of St. Paul's Cathedral

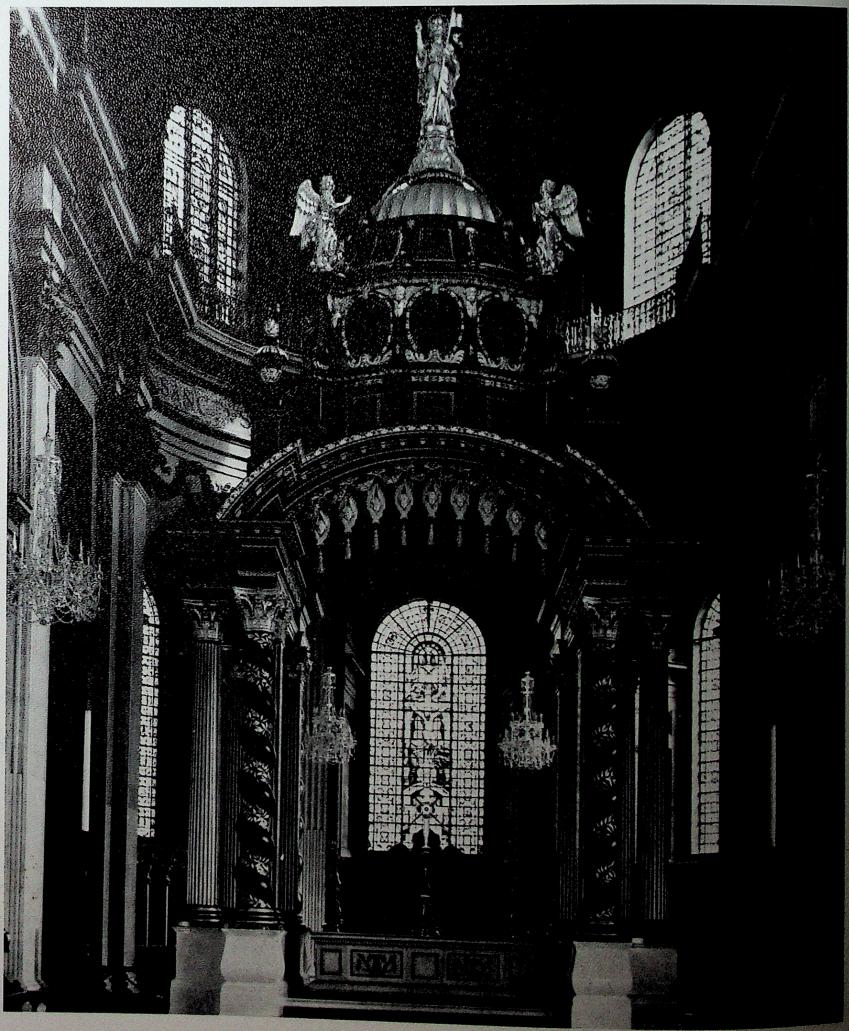
Architects:

S. E. Dykes-Bower, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.
W. Godfrey Allen, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.

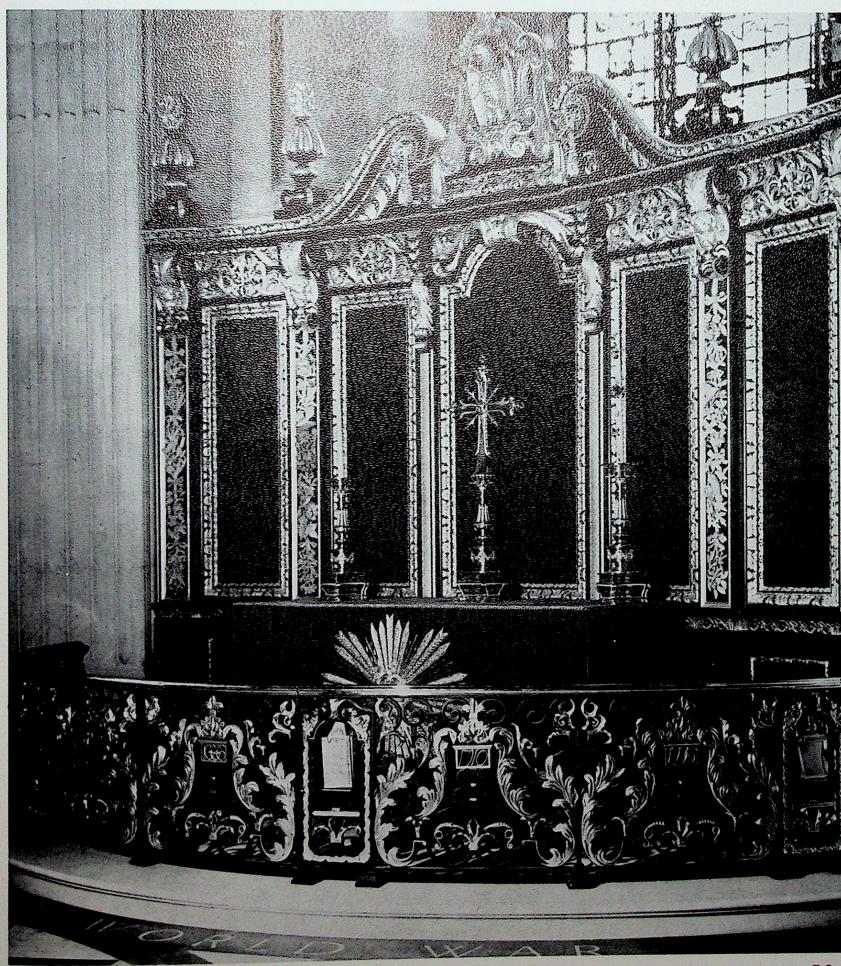
This imposing Cyborium, including the twelve supporting columns, built up on a cedar core, represents a superb example of fine carving in oak and limewood, richly coloured and gilded **11**



11



12



13



14



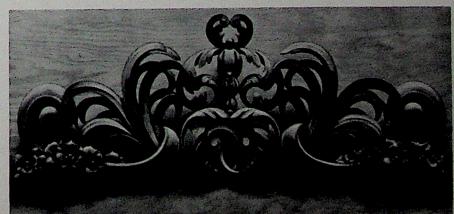
15

The American Memorial Chapel
St. Paul's Cathedral

Architects:

S. E. Dykes-Bower, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.
W. Godfrey Allen, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.

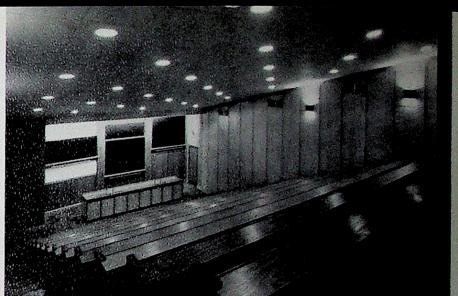
This Chapel fills the centre apse beneath the
east window, and consists of central reredos
and wing panelling of oak, with applied
carvings of limewood representing
American birds and flowers 14, 15



16



17



18



19

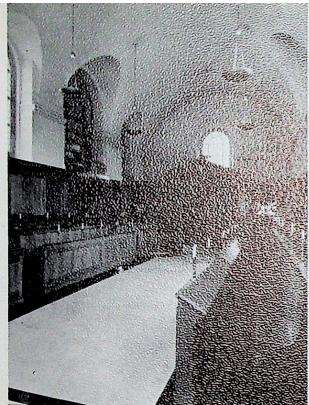


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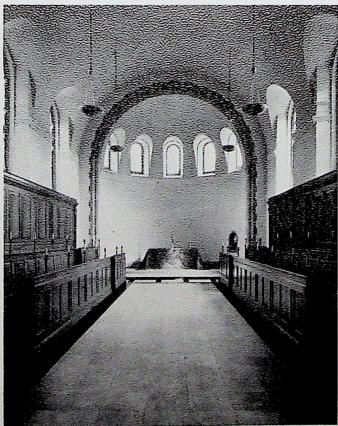
Cambridge University Chemical Laboratories

Architects: Easton & Robertson, Cusdin, Preston & Smith

Built and furnished entirely by Rattee & Kett. Views of the small and large lecture theatres 18, 19 and a typical laboratory 20



21



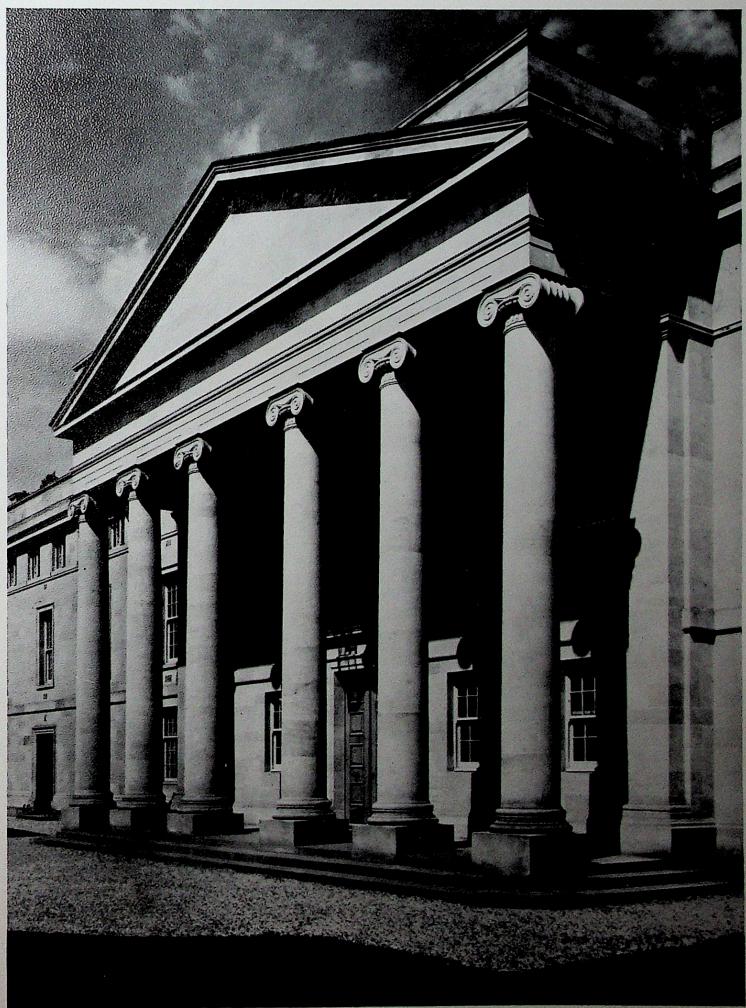
22

Downing College, Cambridge

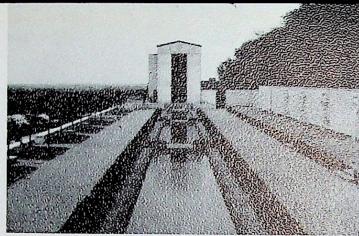
Architects: Sir Herbert Baker & Scott, F/R.I.B.A.

Completely built and furnished by Rattee & Kett. Views of the Chapel, East and West ends 21, 22 showing some of the joinery work.

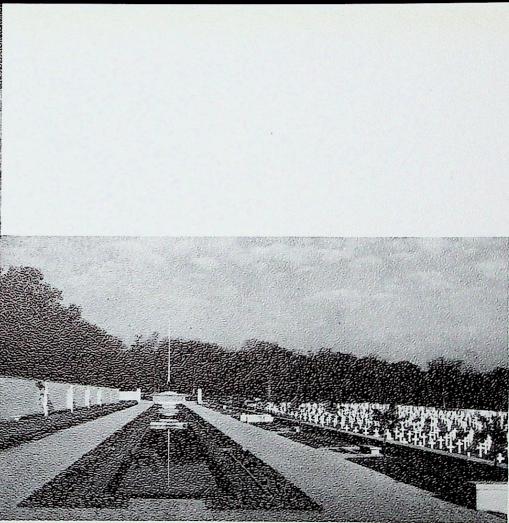
Main Entrance of Ketton Stone 23



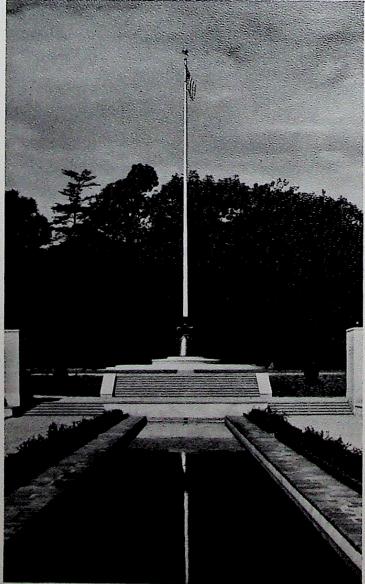
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24



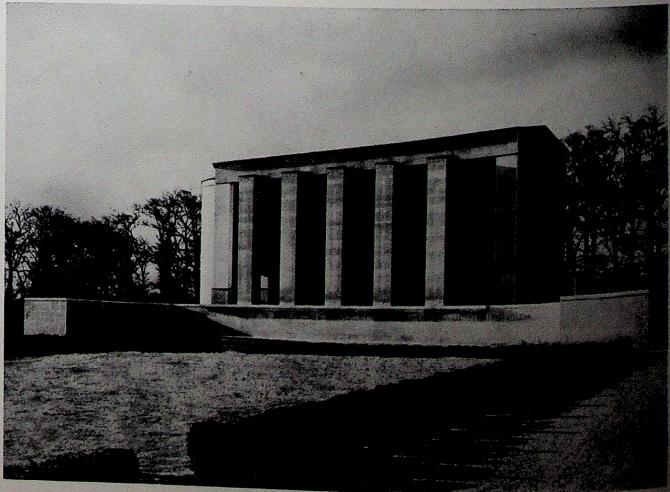
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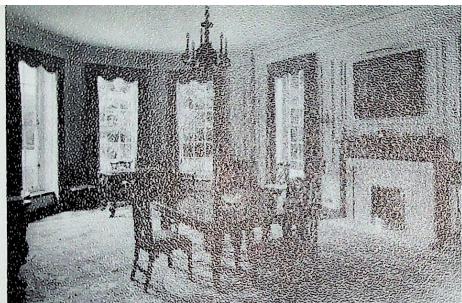
The American Cemetery and Chapel, Cambridge

Built for the American Battle Monuments Commission

Architects:

Perry, Shaw & Hepburn, Kehoe & Dear,
Washington D.C., U.S.A.

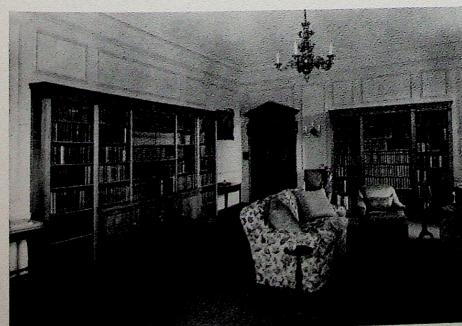
View of the flagstaff from the chapel 25
View from the flagstaff along the Mall to the
chapel entrance 24



29



30



31



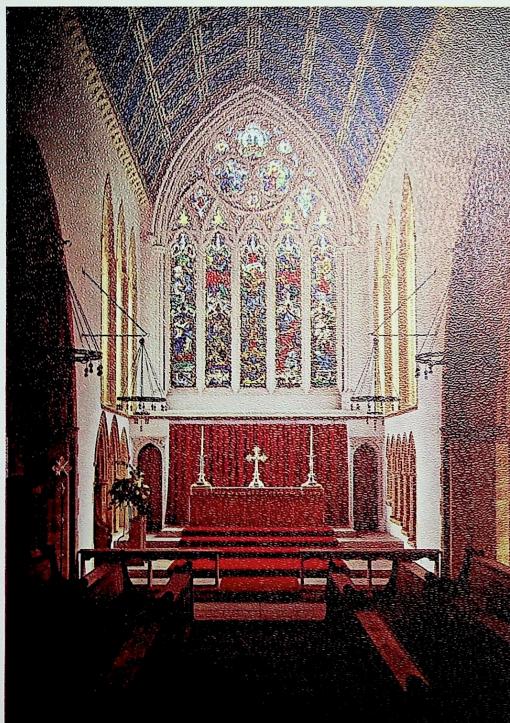
32

Newsells Park, Herts.

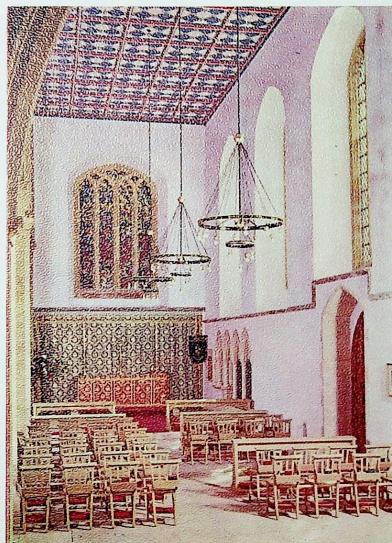
Architect: Victor Heal, F.R.I.B.A.

The residence of Sir Humphrey de Trafford, Bart., built under the direction of the architect.

The interior views 30, 31 show some of the joinery work.



33



34



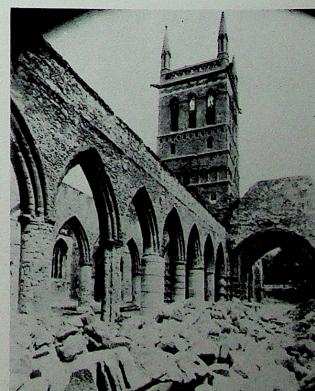
35

The Parish Church of St. Nicholas, Great Yarmouth

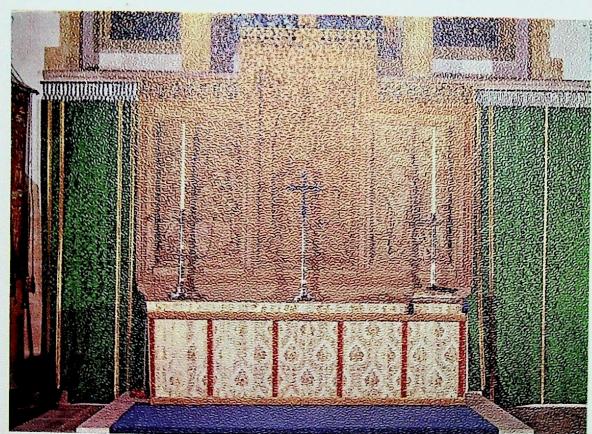
The largest of England's Parish Churches, was completely gutted by incendiary bombs in 1942.

After the initial first-aid repairs to the tower in 1953 to prevent its collapse, the total restoration was begun under a five-year contract. It was all but completely restored in little more than three years.

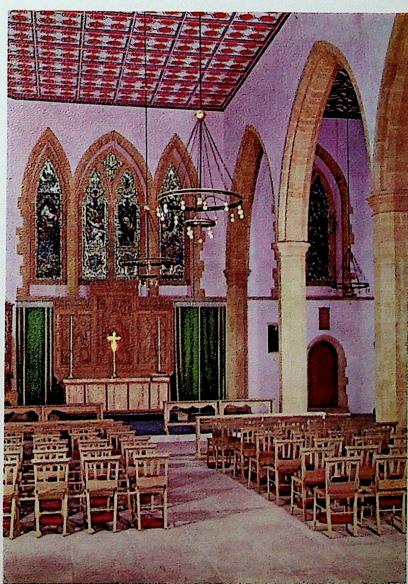
One major change in its structure is the present four-bay nave 38 in place of the original eight bays 36 The whole of the work was carried out under the direction of the *Architect* S. E. Dykes-Bower, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.



36



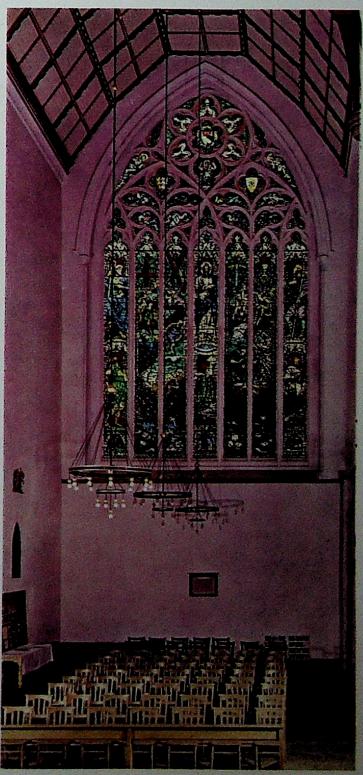
37



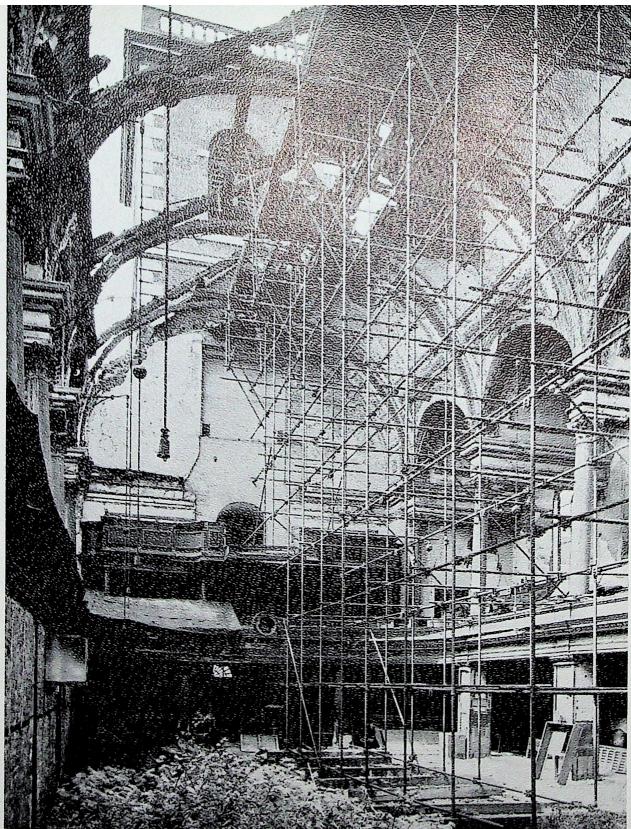
39



38



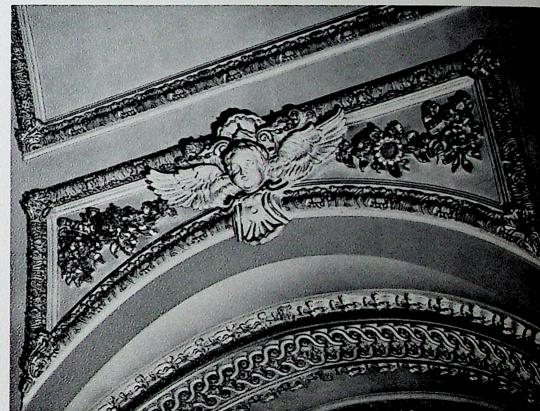
40



41

St. James's Church, Piccadilly

Illustration 41 shows the north-east corner, as it was after damage by high explosive and fire during the War. It was rebuilt and completely restored under the direction of Sir Albert Richardson, K.C.V.O., P.P.R.A., and E. A. S. Houfe, F.R.I.B.A. This reconstruction was carried out to conform in near detail to the original design of Sir Christopher Wren.

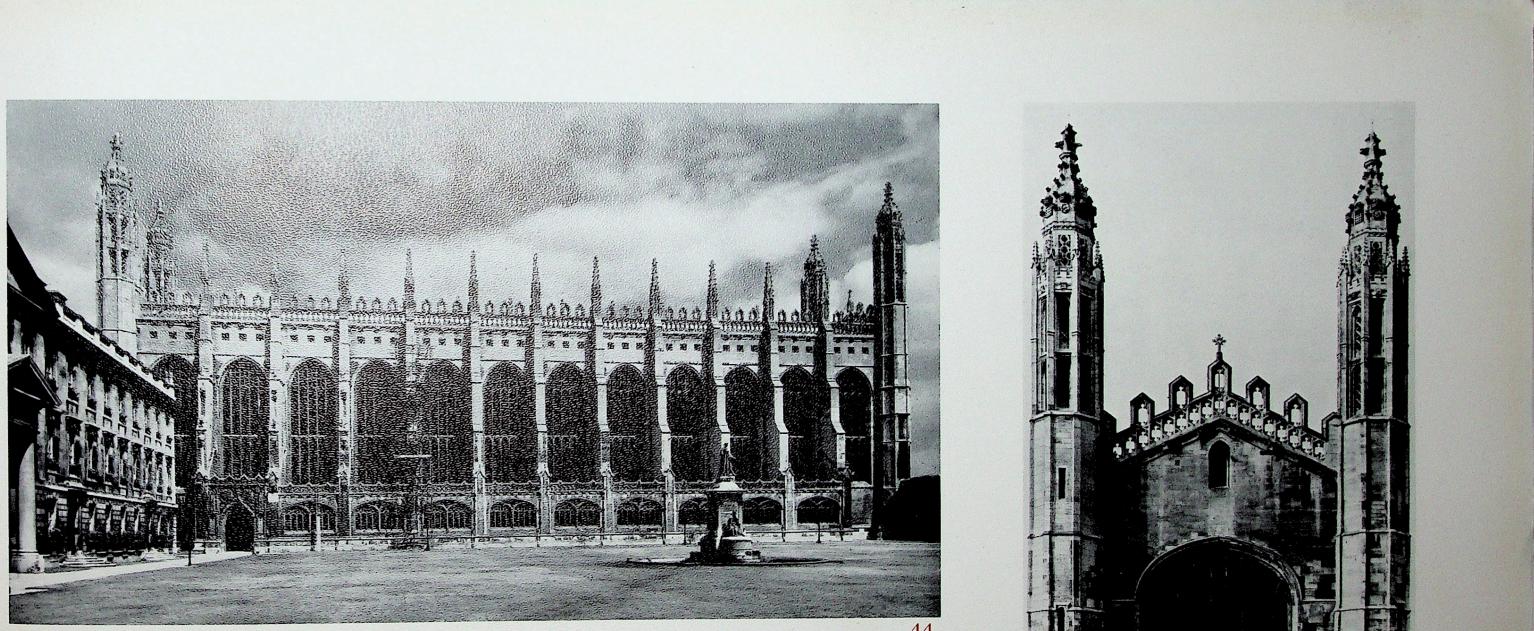


42



43

A close-up of the intricate plaster work to the vaulted roof 42 and 43 the organ and its case restored.



44



45

King's College, Cambridge

Restoration of stonework - which has been carried out over a period of years.

Illustration 45 shows the traceried and pierced parapet on which the stonework has been completely restored.

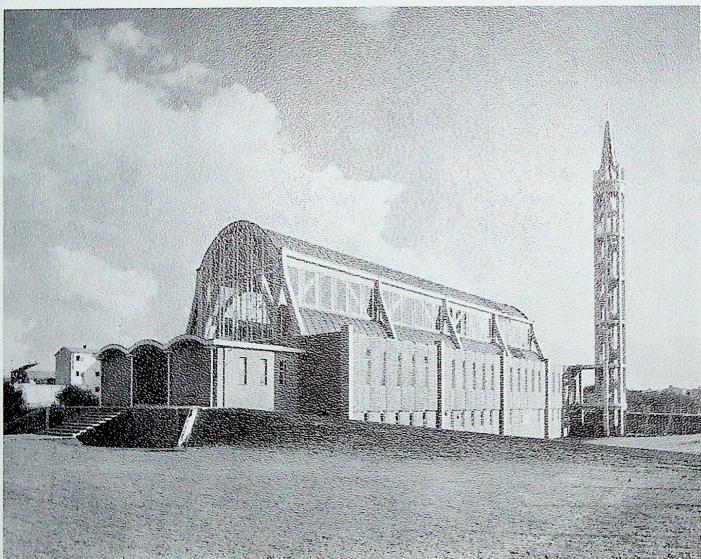
Illustrations 46, 47 show examples of the stone pinnacles before and after restoration.



46



47



48

The Parish Church of St. George, Stevenage

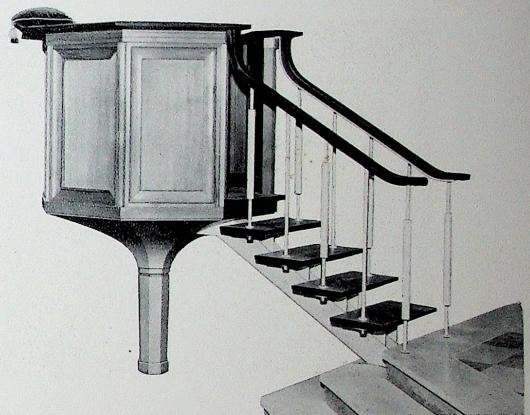
Architects:

Seeley & Paget (Lord Mottistone) O.B.E., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.
and Paul Paget, L.R.I.B.A.

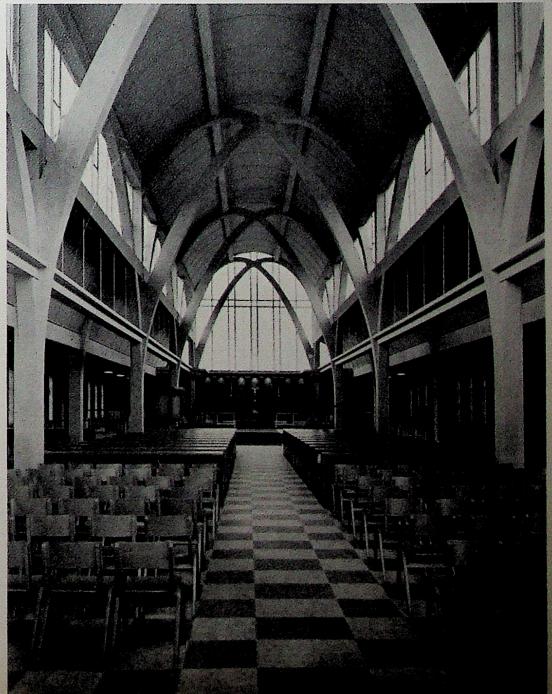
Remarkable in its design conception, in which the familiar plan of the traditional Church is interpreted in modern materials and construction methods.

The slender detached campanile formed of eight pre-stressed 80 ft columns linked with cast *in situ* ring beams, rises to a total height of 106 ft to the gilded cross 48

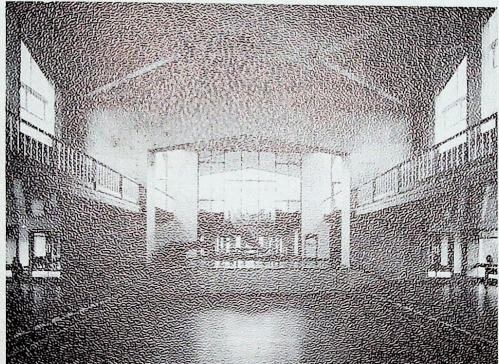
Pulpit by Rattee & Kett 49 Interior view facing east 50



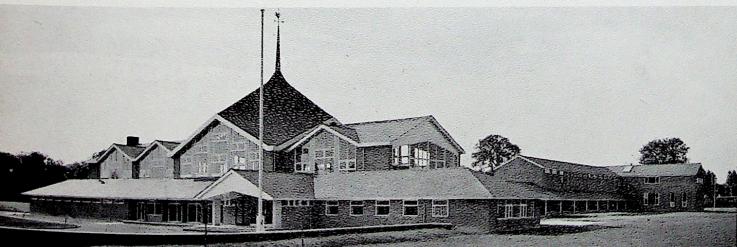
49



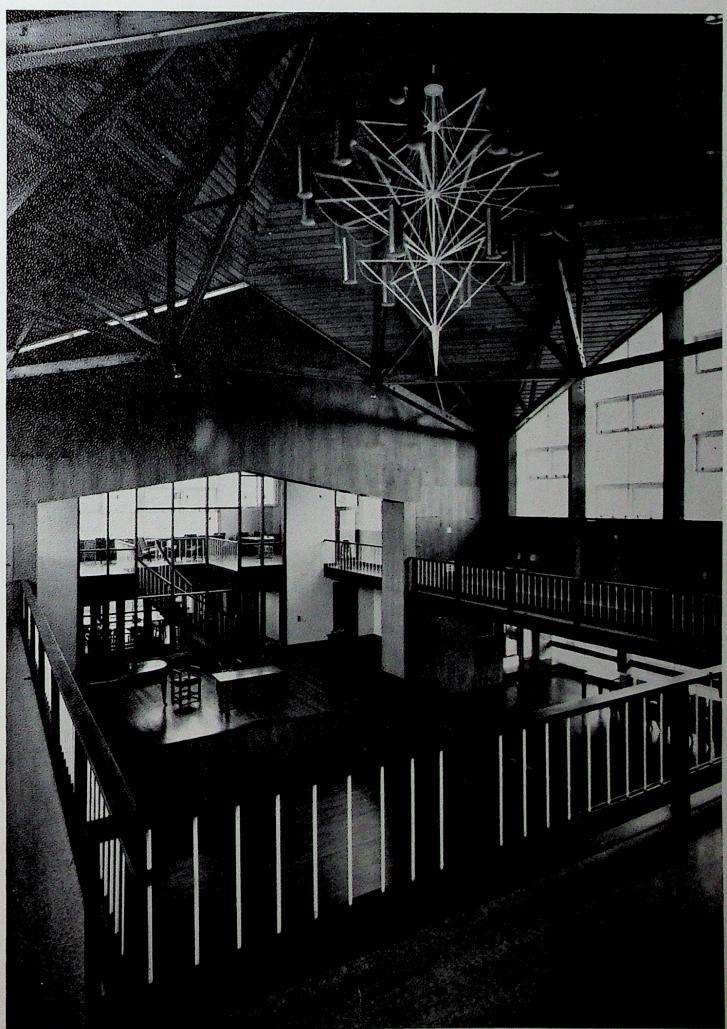
50



51



52

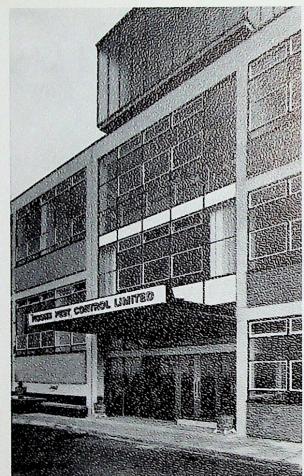


53

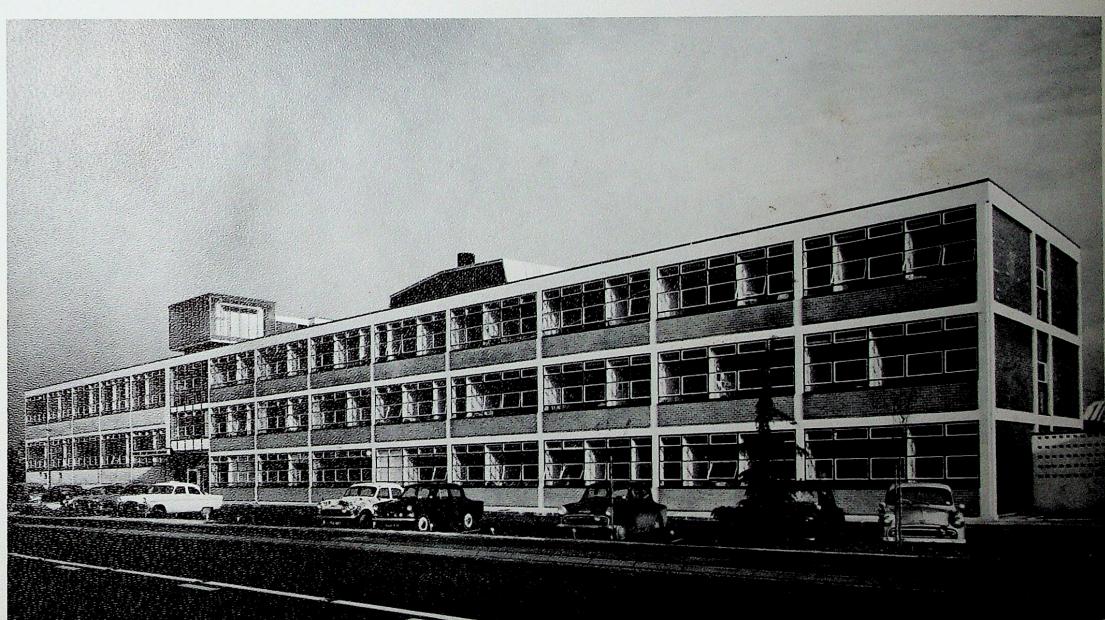
Perse School, Cambridge

Architects:

Robert H. Matthew, C.B.E., M.A., A.R.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.,
and S. Johnson Marshall, C.B.E., B. Arch., A.R.I.B.A.



54



55

The Offices, Laboratories and
Boardroom of Fison's Pest Control
Limited, Harston, Cambridge

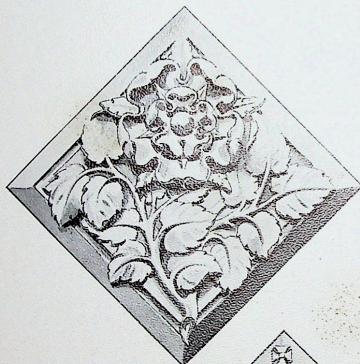
Architects:

Edward D. Mills C.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., M.S.I.A.,
F. A. Turner, A.R.I.B.A.

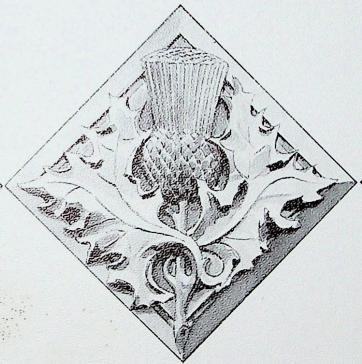


56

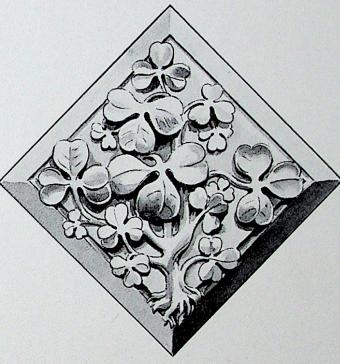
England



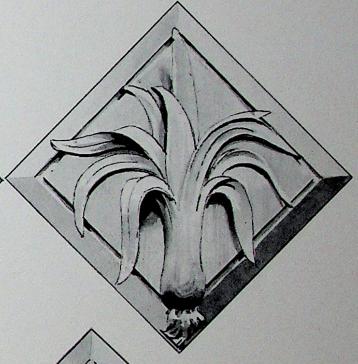
Scotland



Ireland



Wales

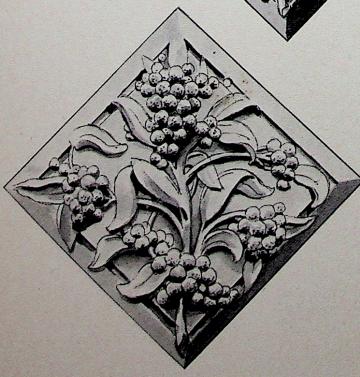


Gt. Britain

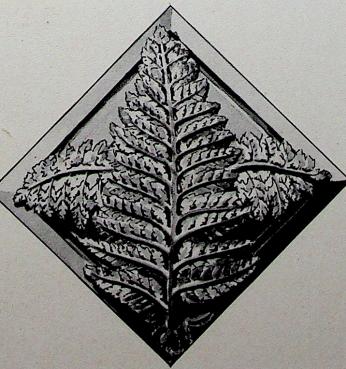


Carved panels, in silver elm, to the Main Entrance Doors of Westminster Abbey Annexe. This work was executed for the occasion of the Coronation of H.M. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The timber used was recovered from the piles of Old Waterloo Bridge, supplied by Messrs. W. W. Howard, Bros. & Co. Ltd.

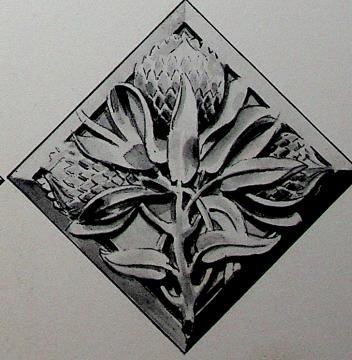
Canada



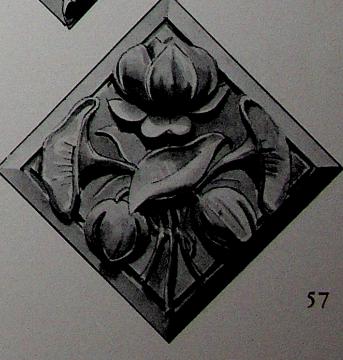
Australia



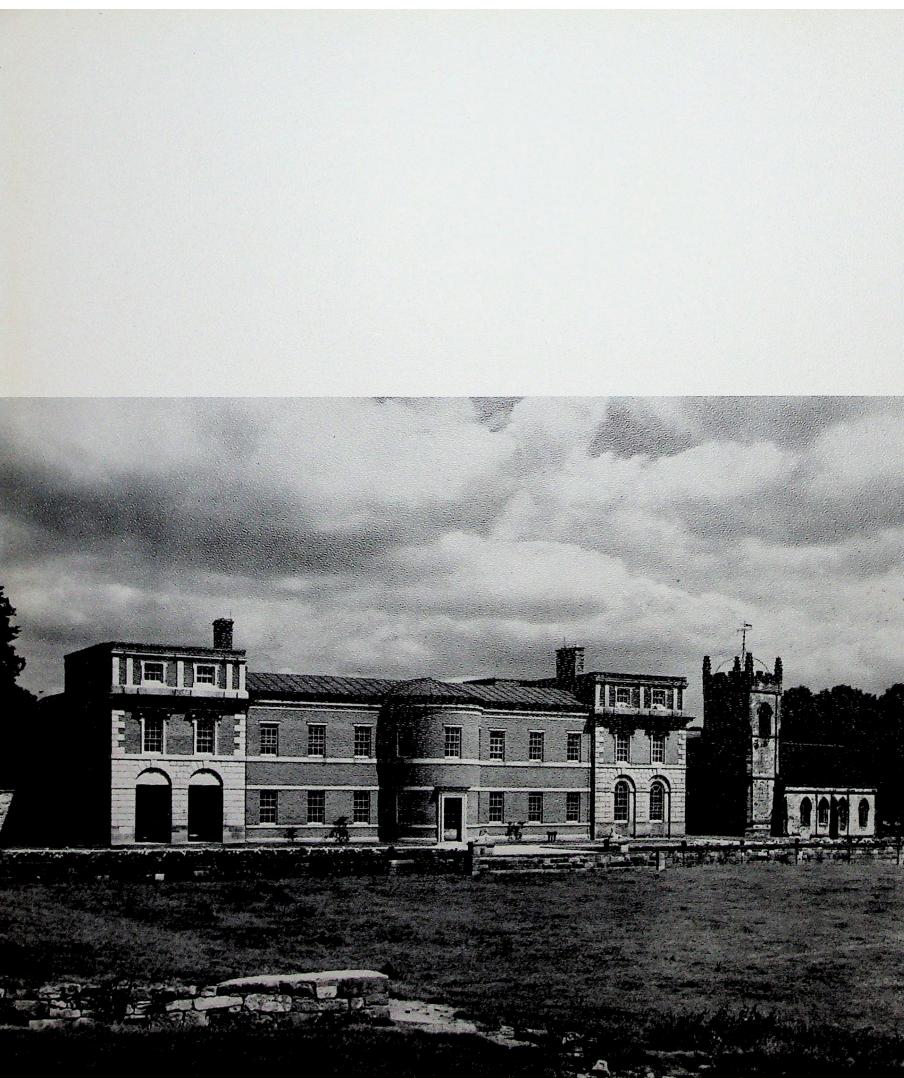
New Zealand



S. Africa

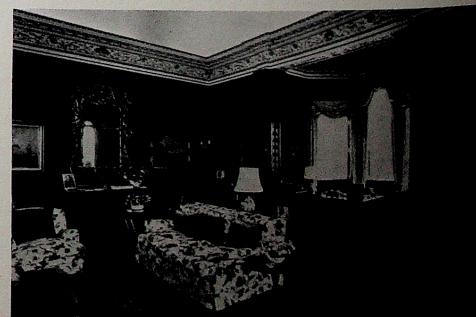


India



59

58

page twenty

60



61



62



63

Restoration and Extension of Okeover Hall,
Staffordshire

for Sir Ian Walker-Okeover, Bart.

Architect:

Marshall Sisson C.B.E., A.R.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.

South elevation and terrace 58 The brick-faced central wing
links the Ashlar-faced towers.

The front and courtyard 59

Drawing room 60 with carved mahogany panelling.

Ground floor corridor 61 Dining room 62 Dressing room 63
showing fibrous plaster vaulted ceiling.



64

Pembroke College, Cambridge

Illustration 64 shows the new wing to the College built under the direction of Marshall Sisson, C.B.E., A.R.A., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.

Extension to Homerton College, Cambridge

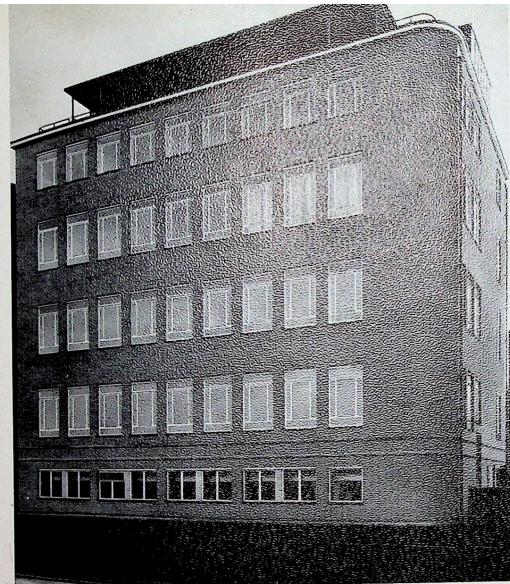
Architects:

Seeley & Paget (Lord Mottistone) O.B.E., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.,
and Paul Paget L.R.I.B.A.

Built for the accommodation of students as well as
lecture rooms 65



65



66

The School of Veterinary Anatomy,
Cambridge University 66

Architects:

Easton & Robertson, Cusdin, Preston & Smith.

Chancellor Building, Christ's College,
Cambridge 67

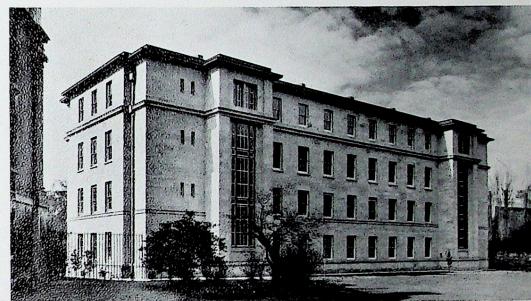
Architects:

Sir Albert Richardson, K.C.V.O., P.P.R.A.,
and E. A. S. Houfe, F.R.I.B.A.

Named in memory of Marshal Jan Smuts, who
was at one time Chancellor of the University.

King's College Garden Hostel 68

Architect: Geddes Hyslop, F.R.I.B.A.



67



68



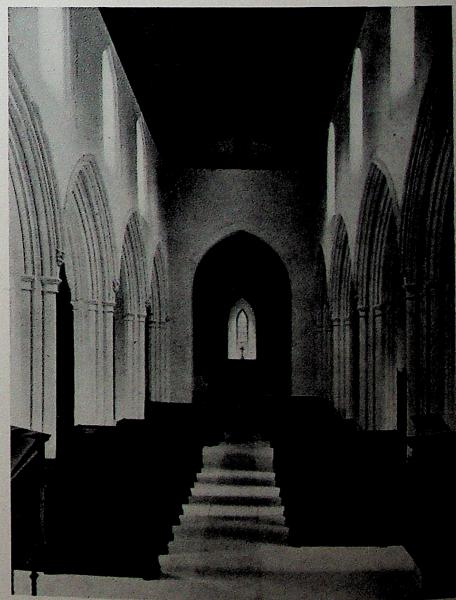
69

Heydon Church

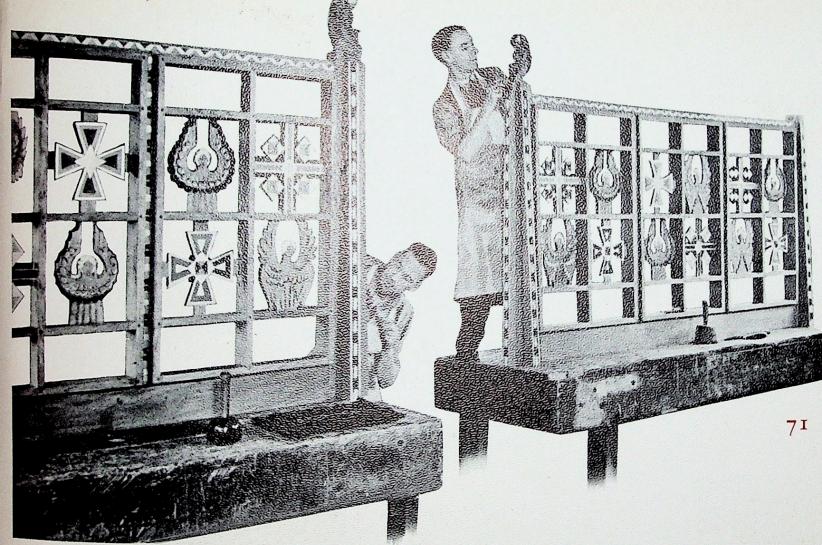
Architects: Sir Albert Richardson, K.C.V.O., P.P.R.A.,

and E. A. S. Houfe, F.R.I.B.A.

Rebuilt after War Damage.



70



71

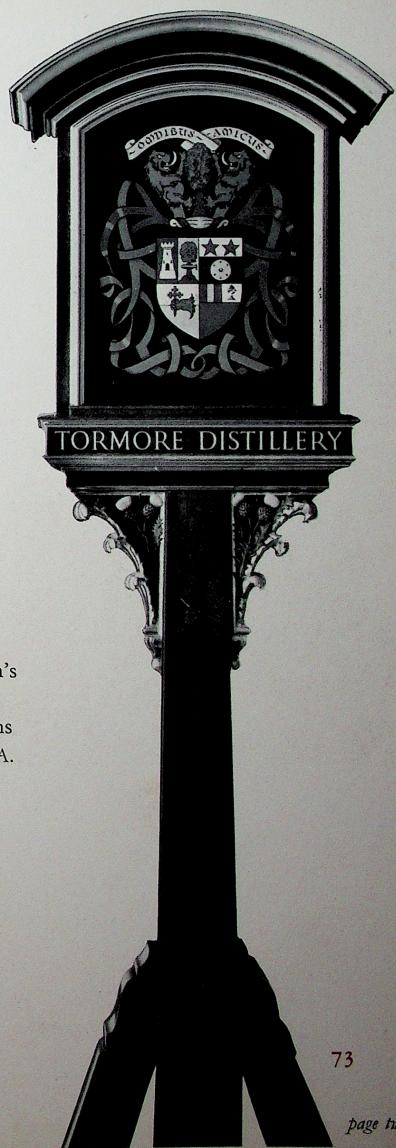


72

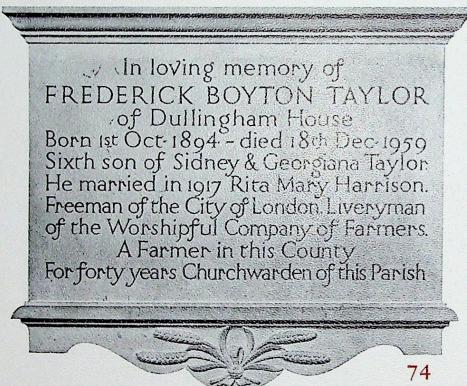
A screen 71 in English Oak for the Children's Chapel in Lagos Cathedral, Africa, having brightly painted carvings of Christain emblems and angels. Design by Harold Nixon, F.R.I.B.A.

The Bishop's Chair 72 of King's College Chapel. The design is based on that of the original choir stalls.

This attractive sign, 73 designed by Sir Albert Richardson, is painted in heraldic colours on a background of green on copper. The whole is of teak with mouldings and carvings coloured and gilded.



73

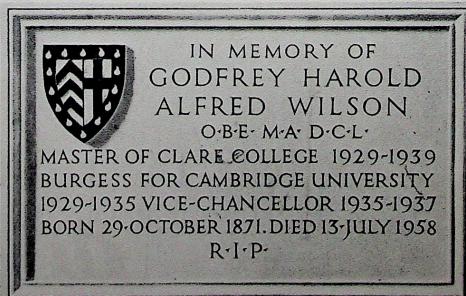


74

Examples of carved and engraved memorial tablets in stone and wood. Although more recently executed, these are reminiscent of the kind of work for which our Company became so widely known.



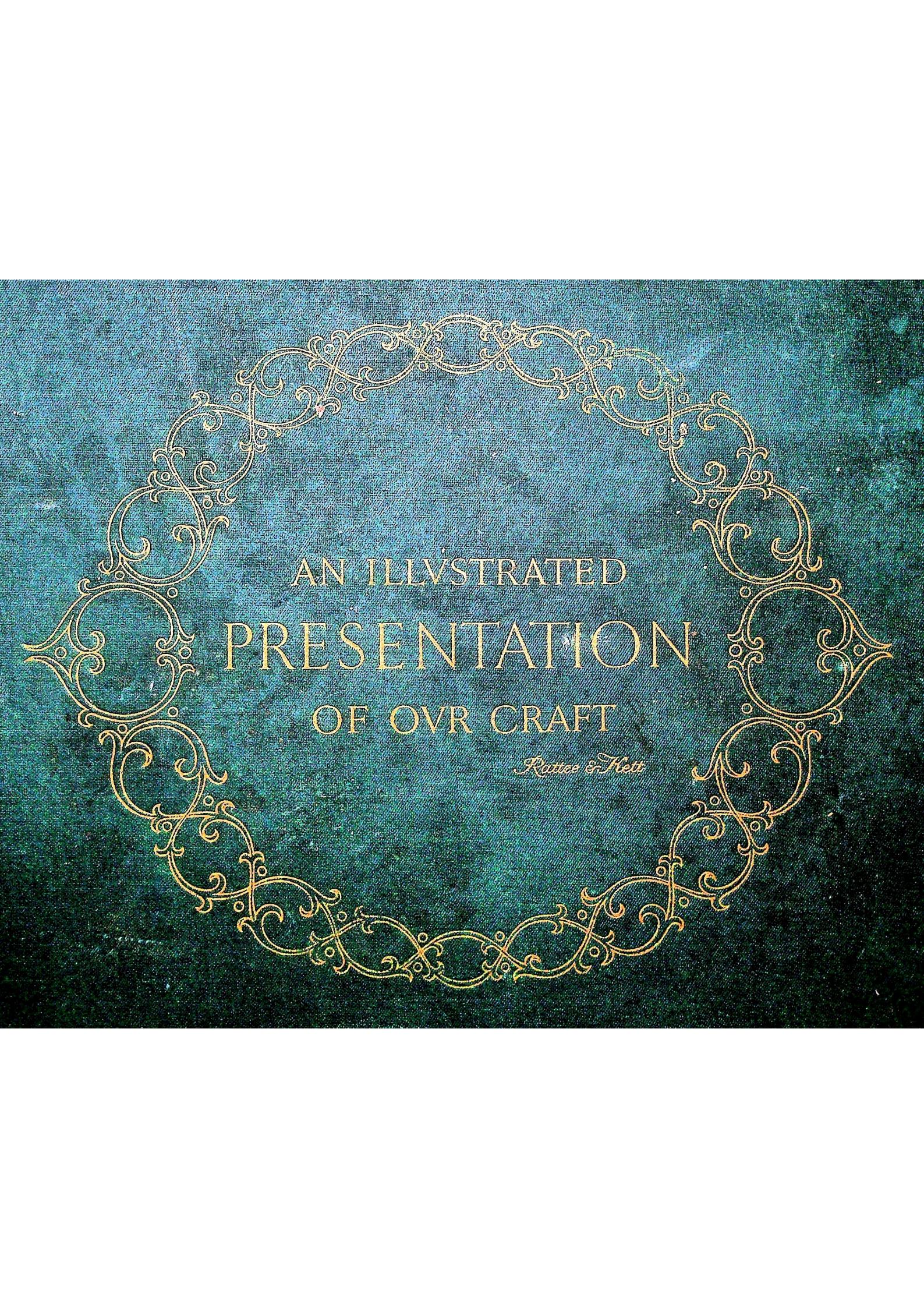
75



76



77



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